THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE. (SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) to (c)There are two technology missions covering (1) Oilseeds and (2) Cotton for the development of agriculture. While the Technology Mission On Oilseeds (1986) focuses attention on increasing the production of oilseeds and thereby reducing import dependence, the Technology Mission On Cotton (January, 2000) attempts to bring together the entire gamut of research, development, marketing and processing of cotton under one umbrella. The outlays for these two Missions during annual plan 1999/2000 are as follows:

(Rs. Crores)

S.No.	Name of the Mission	Plan Outlay 1999-2000 BE	RE
1.	Technology Mission on Oilseeds*	185.00	161.40 .
2.	Technology Mission on Cotton**	61.00	30.00

*The following components were added to the mission subsequently:

(a) Pulses (1990/91)

(b) Maize (1995-96)

(c) Oil Palm Development (1992-93)

**Includes allocations for the earlier ongoing Intensive Cotton Development Programme.

White Paper in Destruction Caused by Natural and Man-Made Calamities

t2291. DR. D. MASTHAN: SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a demand has been made to Government to issue White Paper on the destruction caused annually by natural or man-made calamities;

(b) if so, whether Government would issue White Paper to acquaint people in this regard; and

(c) if so, by when and if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(SHRI S.B.P.B.K. SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) No such request has been received in the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Production of Tur

2292. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have been importing Tur through Open General Licence (OGL) system;

(b) if so, the reasons for importing Tur since Karnataka, Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh have been producing large quantities of Tur;

(c) whether support price was fixed by Government for Tur in Karnataka;

(d) whether there is any demand from Karnataka for fixing higher supporting price for Tur; and

(e) whether Government has released any assistance to Karnataka to provide reasonable support price to Tur growers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRIUCLTURE (SHRI S.B.P.B.K SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) As per EXIM policy the import of pulses including Tur is on Open General Licence (OGL).

(b)The annual domestic consumption of Tur is more than its annual domestic production and hence it is imported.

(c) to (e) The minimum support prices (MSPs) for major agricultural commodities including Tur fixed by the Government are uniform for the whole country. The MSPs are fixed on the basis of the report of the CACP, views of State Governments and concerned Central Ministries as well as other factors important in fixation of MSPs. MSP for Tur in 1999-2000 crop has been fixed at Rs. 1105/- per quintal. The National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Limited (NAFED) is the central nodal agency for undertaking price support operations in case of pulses including Tur, and hence undertakes price support measures incase the prices fall below support level fixed by the Government. The losses, if any, incurred in these operations are to be reimbursed to the NAFED, NAFED as per its business programme has been purchasing tur in Gulbarga District of Karnataka in the price range of Rs. 1550-1670 per quintal loose.